



HUNTER VALLEY EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

October 2019

Hi Everyone,

Once again so many exciting things happened in October. Congratulations to Molly Callinan and Merrindale De Niro on becoming National Pony Club Elementary Sub Junior Champions. To achieve this result the horse and rider had to first qualify, attend the event for 6 days at Sydney International Equestrian Centre, learn 4 tests without a caller (3 tests much achieve over 58%). Molly is only 13 and scored 62.36% (3A), 66.38% (3B) and 65.24% (3C).



**Molly and
Merrindale De Niro
at the Pony Club
Nationals**

On Saturday and Sunday 5-6 October I travelled to Uralla (via Gloucester) to teach dressage at the Pony Club. The children were so keen to learn and the parents were very committed, and also keen to learn. The drought was very obvious. I realised how lucky we are to have water and some green grass and money for feed and our lifestyle. We wash our horses and everything associated with them whenever we want to – this is not possible in the drought. I constantly think about this. Thank you to Stephanie Woodridge for inviting me to coach and to her hard working parents who own Harlow Park Riding School for allowing me to stay.



Teaching at Uralla

I made a quick visit to the skin specialist in Newcastle this month. Like most of you, I'm sometimes guilty of not wearing enough sunscreen along with a big hat and covering up. I see so many people including children at competitions without a hat on. You must cover up – the damage to your skin from the Australian sun is deadly.

My grandson Hugo turned 4 on 29 October. I bought him a pony named Alaska. She is 11.1hh, 7 years old, Welsh A and very cute. I bought Hugo's father Christopher a pony when he was 4. Her name was Leanne and we kept her for 6 years. The children love the ponies and I am looking forward to spending time with Hugo and Alaska.

A huge get well soon to three of Australia's top Grand Prix riders. It's hard to explain but each came off a horse and will have some rest time. All my love and best wishes to Rozzie Ryan, Brett Parbery and Gitte Donvig.

**SAVE THE DATE for the HVEC Christmas Party –
21 December 2019 – invitations coming soon!**

Stay safe and ride well, From Shaun

Hunter Valley Horse Holiday 2019/2020 At Hunter Valley Equestrian Centre

Spend 2 days with your horse (and your dog if you have one), staying overnight in our small guest room near the stables.

Have a lesson each day with Shaun France (EA qualified Level 3 Dressage Coach) in the indoor arena.

After your lessons visit Newcastle and relax on your choice of beautiful beaches, eat and drink by the Harbour, dine out at a variety of restaurants or visit the Hunter Valley Vineyards at Pokolbin.

One night stay for you and your horse including two lessons is \$236.00 (no extra charge for dogs).

The human accommodation has a double bed, TV, fridge/freezer, microwave and table, with all bedding and towels supplied.

The horse accommodation is either in a large stable or yard.

Hunter Valley Equestrian Centre is located at 2 Blackhill Road, Black Hill 2323 (at the end of the M1, between Newcastle and Maitland).

Please contact Shaun France

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